



RESPONSIBLE REFORM FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS DEMOCRATS . SENATE . GOV / REFORM

Wyoming: The Cost of Inaction

Wyoming Families Suffer

Wyoming insurance premiums skyrocket

- ✓ In 1998, family health insurance purchased through an employer cost \$5,999.
- ✓ In 2006, the same family health insurance cost \$12,087.
- ✓ By 2016, the same insurance is projected to cost \$26,327, a 118 percent increase over 2006, which will consume 47 percent of projected Wyoming median family income.

More uninsured Wyomingites

- ✓ Every day, 10 Wyomingites lose their health insurance.
- ✓ During the last two years, 138,000 Wyomingites under age 65 went without health insurance for some time, which is 30.3 percent of the under 65 population.
- ✓ In 2007, 72,811 Wyomingites under age 65 were uninsured for the entire year, which is 16.2 percent of the under 65 population.

Wyomingites pay higher premiums due to the uninsured

- ✓ Wyoming families pay a “hidden tax” of \$1,300 on their health insurance premiums due to the unpaid costs of care for the uninsured.

Fewer choices due to consolidated market

- ✓ The two largest health insurance companies in Wyoming have a combined market share of 85 percent.

Wyoming Businesses Suffer

Fewer Wyomingites have health coverage at work

- ✓ In 2002, 65.3 percent of Wyomingites under age 65 had employer-sponsored health insurance.
- ✓ In 2007, 62.7 percent of Wyomingites had coverage through their employer.

Wyoming Economy Suffers

Health care spending climbs

- ✓ In 2004, Wyoming spent \$2.7 billion on health care.
- ✓ This spending level represents \$5,265 per capita, and is 9.4 percent of the Gross State Product.

Lost economic output of the uninsured due to shorter lives and poorer health

- ✓ This year, the Wyoming economy will lose \$220 million - \$430 million due to the shorter lives and poorer health of the uninsured.